



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

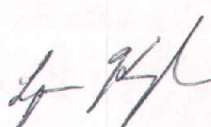
801-538-7223 (TDD)

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

October 2, 1998,

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Senior Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Site Inspection, American Stone Inc., Cotton Thomas Quarry, M/003/024, Box Elder County, Utah

Date of Inspection: September 30, 1998

Time of Inspection: 11:00 p.m.

Conditions: Cloudy,

Participants: Mike Ford, BLM; Dan Moquin, AAG; and Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To document site conditions and disturbed acreage.

We entered the project area at the camp site. This area is still being used for the quarry operations as evidence by stone being stored on this site. Using the Global Positioning System (GPS), the disturbed area was measured to be 1.66 acres. Three roads left this area toward various quarry areas, the first was a two-track road that was about 12 feet wide that went to the northeast for 3,855 feet (1.06 acres) and terminated at the Autumn Gold quarry. This road has been recently used by tracked equipment (trackhoe or dozer). The second road went due north and joined the main access road to the Autumn Gold quarry just below the Antique White quarry. This road was constructed with cut/fill methodology and averaged 16 feet wide for its 1,954 feet in length (0.72 acres). The third road was the main Autumn Gold quarry access road which is 9,135 feet long by 20 feet wide (4.2 acres).

The Antique White quarry appeared to have had some activity during the last few weeks. However, the footprint of this quarry does not appear to have changed since last year. It was measured with the GPS to be 1.29 acres. This quarry is on the main Autumn Gold quarry access road.

The Nelsons quarry (S/003/041) was the next area inspected. This quarry was permitted in 1997 by Mr. Todd Erickson. The surface was sold to Mr. Lon Thomas during the winter of 1997-98. In a phone conversation with Mr. Erickson, he indicated that he had filled out a transfer form to transfer the permit to Mr. Thomas and had forwarded the form to Mr. Thomas to complete and send to the Division (the Division has not yet received this form). On September 28, 1998, Mr. Erickson submitted a partially completed transfer form along with a letter stating that he had not given Mr. Thomas permission to operate under his permit (the Division will forward this second form to Mr. Thomas for signature). To date, Mr. Thomas has not transferred this permit to his ownership, nor has he amended the Cotton Thomas quarry permit to include this area. Inspection of this area revealed that

there has been recent quarrying activity by American Stone as evidenced by fresh ground disturbance by tracked equipment and several pallets of stone (tagged with American Stone labels). The disturbed area was measured with the GPS to be 2.10 acres, of which about one half of this disturbance appeared to be new (done during 1998). Mr. Erickson had disturbed about one acre last year.

Between the Nelsons quarry and the Autumn Gold quarry was a small quarry (estimated to be 1 acre in size on October 15, 1997). This area was currently being worked and has been expanded in size since the October 15, 1997 inspection. This quarry was measured with the GPS to be 1.86 acres in size. From this area a new road has been constructed within the last few weeks. This road goes to the north and then turns east for about 0.5 miles (estimated).

The Autumn Gold quarry was also active during this inspection. The disturbed area associated with this site also appears to have expanded since last October. This quarry was measured to be 5.0 acres.

Adjacent to the Autumn Gold quarry on the northern side is the Nelsons Quartzite quarry (S/003/036 - permitted July 2, 1996 by Don and Keith Nelson). The surface of this quarry was also sold to Mr. Thomas during the 1997-98 winter. The Nelsons also sent the Division a letter (received October 1, 1998) stating that Mr. Thomas does not have permission to operate under their permit. To date, Mr. Thomas has not transferred this permit to his ownership, nor has he amended the Cotton Thomas quarry permit to include this area. This area was active during this inspection with pallets of stone having American Stone tags. This area has increased from a size of about 0.5 acres observed last October to 2.63 acres as measured with the GPS. Interconnecting road between the Nelsons quarry, Autumn Gold quarry and the Nelsons Quartzite quarry average 16 feet wide and are 0.23 miles long (0.45 acres).

We then traveled the 1.09 miles (18 feet wide - 2.38 acres) north-northwest to the Buckskin quarry. It was noted as we traveled along this road that the two road segments that paralleled this road which were to have been reclaimed this year have not been reclaimed (2.18 acres). There had been recent activity in the Buckskin quarry. However, the footprint of the disturbance did not appear to have changed since the October 1997 inspection. The disturbed area of the Buckskin quarry was measured with the GPS to be 2.01 acres.

The road to the Granite quarry was measured to be 5,597 feet long by an average 16-feet wide (2.06 acres). There has been recent activity in the Granite quarry as evidenced by fresh tracks. This area has expanded from an estimated 0.75 acres to 2.12 acres as measured with the GPS. Mr. Ford indicated that the mineral in this area is Federal ownership and appears to be common variety (non-claimable) material. He will investigate this further as a possible trespass situation.

The access road (new construction) to a new quarry to the north-northwest of the Buckskin quarry was measured with the GPS to be 5,069 feet long by 14 feet wide (1.63 acres). This new quarry area also involved Federal mineral ownership and appeared to be common variety (gneiss) material. This site was measured with the GPS to be .47 acres in size.

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The access to the Buckskin quarry from the main access road junction was measured with the GPS at 6,389 feet long by an average width of 18 feet (2.64 acres). About half way along this road was another road to the northwest for 2,957 feet averaging 14 feet wide (0.95 acres). This road terminated at another new quarry area (not observed until this year and not indicated in the Cotton Thomas Notice of Intention). This quarry also involved Federal mineral ownership and appeared to be common variety material. It was measured with the GPS to be 0.87 acres in size.

The Little Heart quarry appeared to be inactive for most of this year. The access road was measured to be 0.17 miles long by 16 feet wide (0.02 acres) and the quarry area to be 0.88 acres in size (measurements made with the GPS).

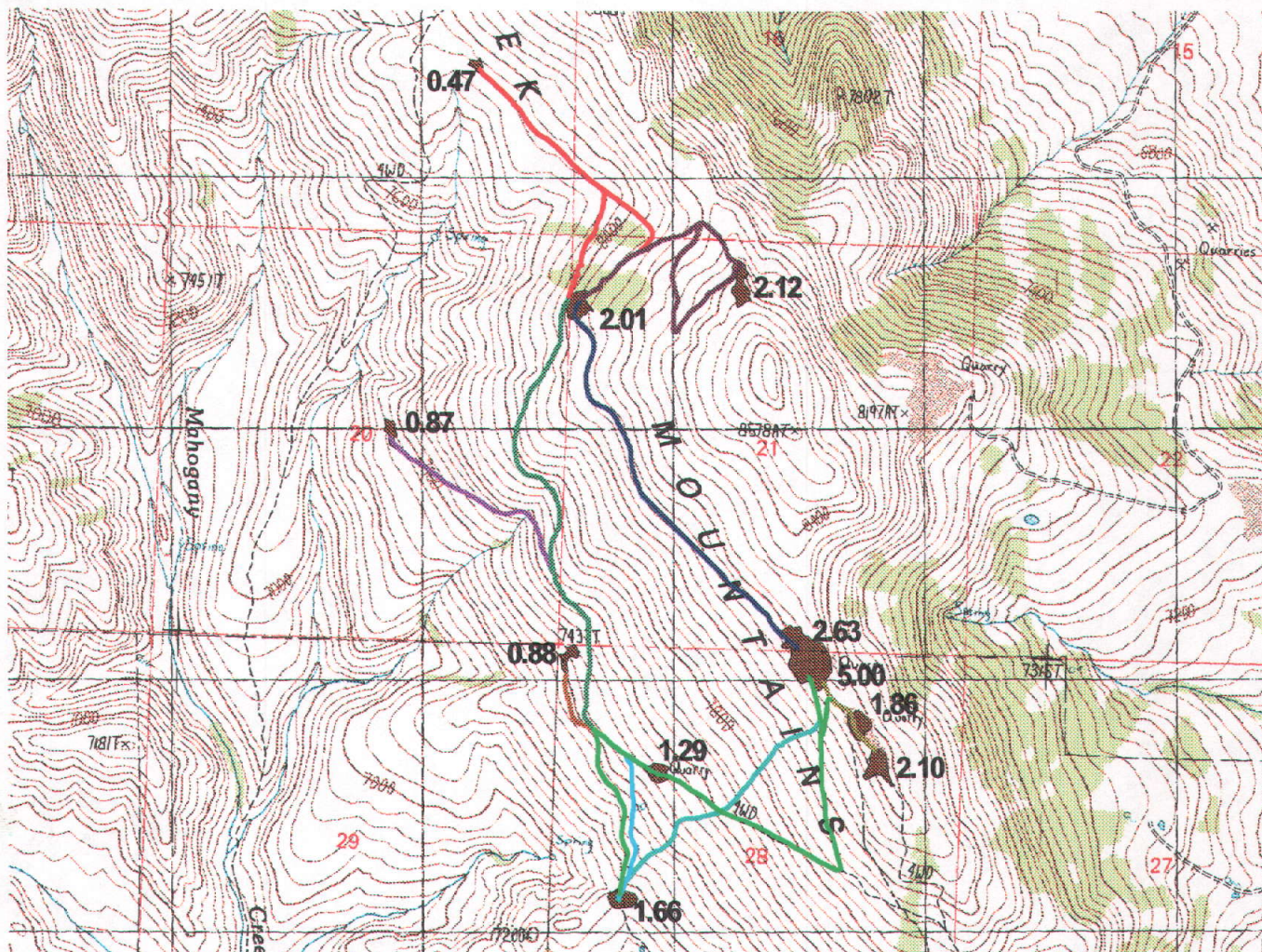
It should be noted here that along most of the roads associated with this project were small areas (generally between an estimated 0.1 and 0.25 acres in size) where stone had been quarried within the last few years. By no means is the acreage documented in this memo to be considered the full amount of mining related disturbance at this site, but only as a close approximation of the disturbance currently existing on the date of the inspection. Even as we were preparing to leave it was noted that the work crew had moved the trackhoe to the northwest of the Nelson Quartzite area onto previously undisturbed (not measured in this survey) ground.

In summary, we documented 20.88 acres of quarry and staging areas (including the camp area) and 18.29 acres of access road, for a total of 39.17 acres. Two new quarry areas (1.34 acres) were observed along with 4 new roads (4.36 acres). Quarry expansion was also noted at 5 of the 7 existing quarries (7.59 acres). This represents an increase of 13.29 acres or 51% of the previous disturbance at the Cotton Thomas area. This does not include the new road going to the north and east of the Autumn Gold quarry; which, at the time of this inspection could not be determined to be a mine-related road.

Several photos were taken to document observations. A map of the roads and quarry locations generated by the GPS is attached

jb
Attachment: map
cc Mike Ford, BLM
 Dan Moquin, AAG
 Mary Ann Wright, DOGM
 Wayne Hedberg, DOGM
m03-24.ins

American Stone Cotton Thomas Quarry



0.4 0 0.4 0.8 Miles

